



DAILY MOMENTS

WITH PASTOR STEVE

PINE GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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DAY NINETY-NINE: "Facing your Fears "

*"Oh death, where is your sting? Oh grave, where is your victory?
... thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
-1 Corinthians 13: 55-57*

Christ gives courage! Real dynamic courage. He can do this because everyone knows Christ is risen; we no longer need to be afraid of dying. And when you have eliminated the fear of death, you have eliminated the source of all fears.

Some time ago, I was watching a History channel program on British Naval History, when I was introduced to an interesting anecdote. There was a time in the West Indies when there were five ships anchored in the harbor. One was a British ship.

Suddenly an unexpected storm came up and the waves rolled fiercely into the harbor. The British officer raised the anchor and set his ship at sea directly into the mounting, rolling waves. He sailed out of the harbor into the face of the storm.

Two days later, battered and bruised, but still afloat and intact, he came back to the harbor. In the calm that hovered over the now still waters, he surveyed the scene and found that the other four ships, that had not weighed anchor for fear of the storm, had been driven onto the shore and had been destroyed!

There is only one way to conquer a fear and that is to face it! If Christ is our Lord and God, we can face any fear, even death, without being afraid! Come-Alive-Power gives courage!

Dear Jesus, because you live, all my fear is gone. Thank you for helping me to face my fears. I am only able to face them because you go before me and you come after me. You protect me from harm and give me the courage to live a positive, possibility-filled life! Amen.

Steve Martin